Vacant posts of doctors and para medical staff

589. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that large number of posts of doctors and para medical staff are lying vacant in Central Government run hospitals across the country;

(b) if so, by when these posts are likely to be filled; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) to (c) No, Sir. There are indeed a few vacancies due to normal Wastages like retirements/resignations and action to fill up these vacancies is a continuous on-going process. Wherever necessary, appointment on adhoc/contract basis is also permitted to ensure that working of the hospital is not affected.

Chemicals in cola drinks

†590. SHRI JAI PARKASH AGGARWAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether cold drinks like Pepsi Cola, Coca Cola and others use various chemicals and other compounds;

(b) if so, the names of such chemicals and compounds alongwith their quantity;

(c) whether in these cold drinks, such things are being used which are very injurious to health;

(d) whether all the chemicals and compounds being used in these cold drinks have been got tested; and

(e) whether this would be made obligatory for the cold drink manufacturers to mention the names and quantities of chemicals and compounds, used in the cold drinks, on each container?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) to (e) The products Coca-Cola and Pepsi cola are covered under the standards of Carbonated Water prescribed under the PFA Rules, 1955. A copy of the standards of Carbonated Water which provides the details of the different ingredients and additives and their permissible level in the final product, is enclosed as statement. (*See* below). The labeling provisions have also been prescribed under PFA Rules.

The name and quantity of each chemical or compounds used need not be inscribed on the Container.

The PFA Act, 1954 & Rules made there under are implemented by the State/UT Governments, who draw regular samples of various food products including carbonated water and take appropriate action under PFA Rules, 1955, if the samples are found not confirming with the standards under PFA Rules, 1955.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Statement

Standards of Carbonated Water

The Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules, 1955

Appendix B

(*See* Rule 5)

Definitions and Standards of Quality

A. 01 — BEVERAGES — NON-ALCOHOLIC

A. 01.01 CARBONATED WATER means water conforming to the standards prescribed for Packaged Drinking Water under Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules, 1955 impregnated with carbon dioxide under pressure and may contain any of the following singly or in combination.

Sugar, liquid glocose, dextrose monohydrate, invert sugar, fructose, honey, [6]fruit and vegetables extractives and permitted flavouring, colouring matter, preservatives, emulsifying and stabilizing agents, citric acid, [2](fumaric acid, and sorbitol,) tartaric acid, phosphoric acid, lactic acid, ascorbic acid, malic acid, [3](edible gums such as guar, karaya, Arabic, carobean, furcellaran, tragacanth, gum ghatti), edible gelatin, albumin, licorice and its derivatives, salts of sodium, calcium and magnesium, vitamins, caffeine not exceeding 200 parts per million,[4] Estergum (Glycerol ester of wood rosin) not exceeding 100 parts per million expressed as quinine sulphate. It may also contain Saccharin Sodium not exceeding 100 ppm, Acesulfame-K not exceeding 300 ppm, or Aspertame (methyl ester) not exceeding 700 ppm or[8] sucralose not exceeding 300ppm:

"Provided that the quantity of added sugar shall be declared on the container/bottle and if not sugar is added that also shall be declared on the container/bottle as laid down in sub-clause (1) and (12) of sub-rule (ZZZ) of rule 42. In case of returnable bottles, which are recycled or refilling the declaration of quantity of added sugar and no sugar added may be given on the crown:

Provided also that the declaration of no sugar added shall not be applicable for 'carbonated water (plain soda)'.

Provided also that the products which contain aspertame, acesulfame K or any other artificial sweetener for which special labeling provisions have been provided under rules 42, 47 or any other under PFA Rules, 1955, shall not be packed, stored, distributed or sold in returnable containers".

[4](It shall conform to the following requirements, namely:—

(1) Total plate count per ml..... not more than 50

(2) Coliform count in 100 ml..... 0

(3) Yeast and mould count per ml..... not more than 2)

TB deaths in the country

†591. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that around 20 lakh people die untimely every year in the country due to infectious diseases like T.B.;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.